

FLOODS SWEEP THROUGH HILO AND CAUSE GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Hackfeld's Mill and Lumber Yards Are Wrecked by the Rush of Waters.

Electric Lights Out as a Result of Break in Pipe Line—Streets Are Rendered Impassable.

(Special Correspondence.)

HILO, Nov. 12.—After a week's rain the Wailuku river burst its banks Saturday night last and a torrent poured through the lumber yards and warehouses, partially destroying the Hackfeld planing mill and doing damage to the amount of \$15,000.00.

"The most damaging storm in twenty years" is the way the oldest inhabitant speaks of the one through which the city has just passed. For more than a week rain has been falling but the heaviest was on Friday and Saturday and the streams swelled in consequence. Saturday morning the Wailuku river was a roaring torrent, the water having risen so that the falls above the upper bridge at the electric light works were entirely obliterated from view.

Between 7 a. m. Friday and 10:30 a. m. on Saturday the gauge at Wailukea showed a rainfall of seventeen inches, the heaviest during the storm. Saturday afternoon one of the pipes of the electric light company broke loose and wobbled like an enormous snake. The damage was such that the town was in darkness on Saturday night. Late in the afternoon water from the Wailukea river commenced to pour over the banks opposite Hackfeld's lumber yard which is on the road to Wailukea. In a little while the space between the warehouses of Hackfeld and Davies, a distance of 500 yards, was impassable to vehicles.

The water continued to rise and flow like a mill race, the strongest force being at a point between the planing mill and the lumber shed and near the original channel of the river which was closed when the road was built six years ago.

In the early evening the situation was alarming; sheds and outhouses began to float away. At eight o'clock a stage belonging to a Chinese was caught in the torrent and washed across the road lodging under the Hackfeld planing mill and at midnight the road gave way and the water poured through the lumber yard to the sea, washing away the underpinning of the planing mill and the drying shed. A cement foundation on which rested the fifteen horsepower motor sunk so that it was at an angle of forty-five degrees and the frame work holding the transformers carried away and the cumbersome pieces were buried in ten feet of water.

In the meantime Manager Humburg recruited all the men available and set them to work taking out such machinery as could be moved and moving piles of lumber.

The floor of the planing mill now forms an arc of a circle and the roof of the lumber shed is bent so that it resembles a Kansas town after a visit from a cyclone. The loss to the firm is estimated at \$14,000 to \$15,000.

At the Four Mile bridge on the Volcano road the water broke over the banks on Saturday afternoon and reached a depth which made travel dangerous and the road was temporarily closed. To the north there were several fender slides, the worst being between Papaikou and Pepekeo. The road was impassable and passengers on stages were obliged to transfer to others that had been sent out from Hilo. On the Kaunamana road, about six miles from Hilo, there was another washout that stopped travel beyond that point.

The Puna branch of the Hilo railroad suffered some damage at a dirt fill about two miles from Olua mill. It was not serious and will be repaired in a few days.

A large force of men was put to work today on the roads in the country. No

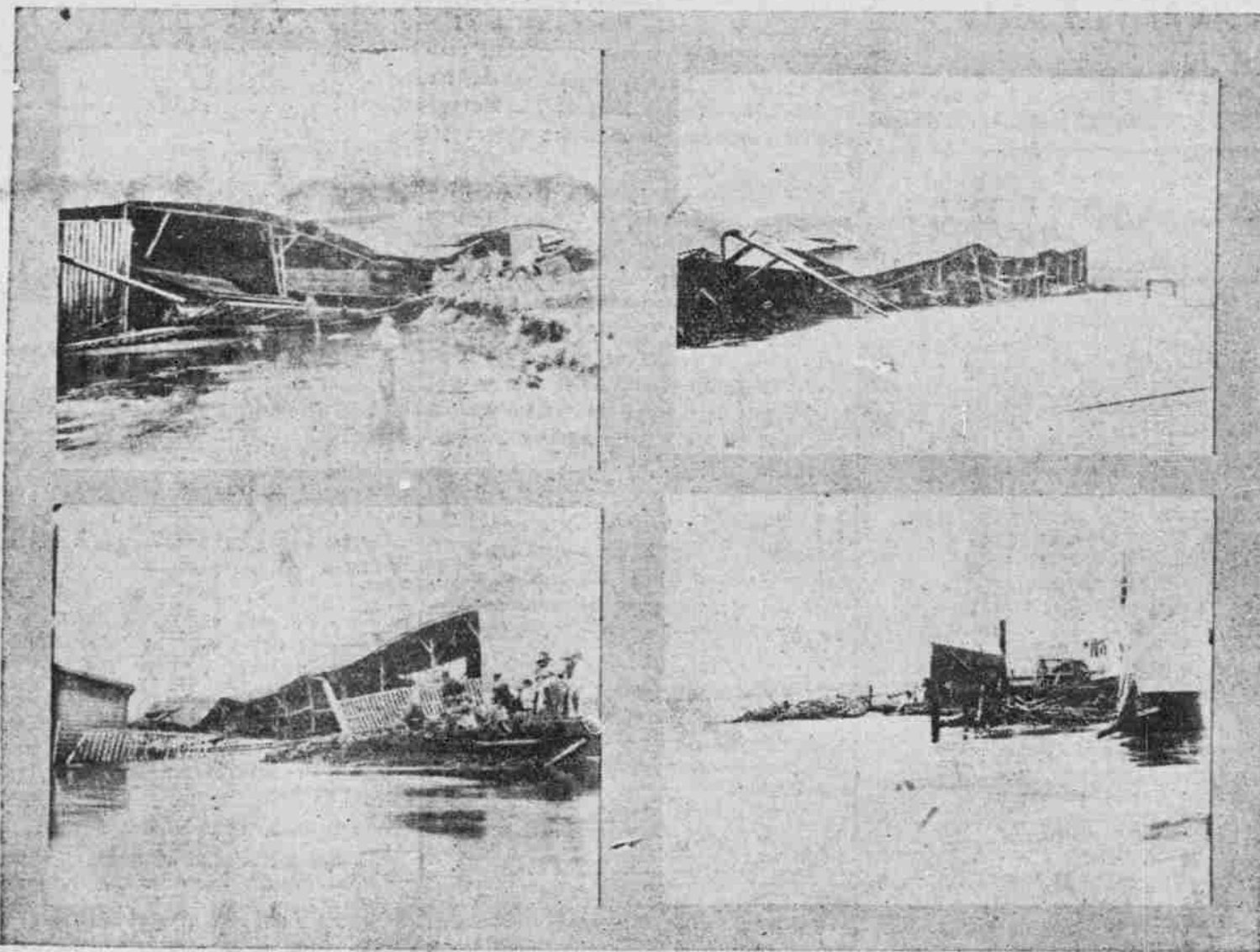
decision has been arrived at by the board relative to the break on the Wailukea road at Hackfeld's. There is talk that a culvert will be put in and pipes used to keep the flow within bounds. Such a plan does not have the full support of the board for the reason, it is said, that anytime there was a northerly blow the sea would wash away the pipes. The board began the erection of a temporary bridge Monday afternoon. It is not likely that the planing mill will be rebuilt in its present position.

In Olua the damage to cane is trifling; the only serious happening was to the two reservoirs at nineteen miles. One of these gave way at the bank early Saturday morning flooding the road for a distance of more than a mile, the water carrying with it logs and ferns so that for a time the road was badly clogged.

HACKFELDS HAVE NO INFORMATION

Any Damage Suffered by Them Will be Repaired at Once.

In the office of Hackfeld & Co. here in Honolulu only little was known of the damage done to their warehouse in Hilo. The only information they have



WRECK OF THE HACKFELD BUILDINGS AT HILO.

received is from the firm's correspondent in Kailua, Kona, who speaks of the rain storm in Hilo, but does not mention that damage to any extent was done to the firm's property in that city. Mr. Humburg said that while, from the scanty information which he at present had at hand, he was inclined to believe that the extent of the damage had been greatly exaggerated, still he had no doubt that if any serious damage had been done, the firm would immediately repair it.

The Federal Court jury has been excused until Tuesday morning.

SMALL CASE IN SUPREME COURT

All Afternoon Spent in Arguing Case Where \$3.25 Was Involved.

The \$3.25 case occupied the attention of the Supreme Court and of two attorneys all afternoon yesterday. The real title of the case is J. F. Morgan vs. Mrs. F. C. Betters, being an attempt on the part of the auctioneer

to recover the amount stated above for a lamp and a lantern purchased by defendant, but which she refused to pay, because the articles in question had not been delivered. The case has been in the District Court and before Judge Gear, and was argued yesterday before the Supreme Court. The court costs alone now amount to three or four times the sum involved.

In the morning the case of Nellie Cook vs. Hollister Drug Company was taken up. This is an appeal by defendant from a judgment in the Circuit Court for damages resulting from the use of a face lotion sold by appellant.

HALF A MILLION IN TAXES

Honolulu Alone Paid That Amount.

QUITE A FEW DELINQUENTS

Final Payments for Year Were Made to Collector Pratt Last Evening.

THE tax collector's books for the year 1901 were closed last evening. Though the footings have not been completed Assessor Pratt estimated that the total collections for Honolulu city alone will approximate a half million dollars. This does not take in the four other districts of Oahu, but it does include the income tax for the entire island, the sugar planters all paying directly to Collector Pratt.

The receipts yesterday fell far below those of the previous day though the office force was just as busy, the majority of the taxpayers being those of small property. Thursday's collection amounted to \$157,000.

The percentage of the income to the general property tax is still uncertain though it is expected to come up very close to the other tax. Mr. Pratt said last evening that it would be less than the property tax, but what the difference is, he could not say, as the income tax has been collected for the entire island and the general tax is for the Honolulu district alone. No estimate of the revenue, derived from the other districts of Oahu could be made last evening, though it will hardly bring the total up to three-quarters of a million.

The income tax paid yesterday was still accompanied by protests, the average citizen filing his kick more as a matter of right than with any real anticipation of ever having his money returned. In some quarters the tax was paid with the idea of assisting the government out of its present dilemma, and once the financial condition improves, an attempt will be made to recover the tax paid. It is very generally understood, however, that if it were not for the income tax the property assessment would be proportionately higher.

Treasurer Wright does not expect to hear from other island districts much before the first of December. The income tax returns are of course a very uncertain factor when it comes to making up the estimates, and the treasurer is unable to make any predictions of what will be the total revenue this year.

Assessor Pratt said last evening that the number of delinquents will be quite large, greater on the property than on the income tax. The publication of the delinquent tax list in so far as it would show the amount of money a man earned during the past year, is more feared by the average citizen than the addition of the ten per cent penalty. In the case of income tax the tax draws nine per cent interest until paid.

SOUTH KONA MEETING.

Directors Will Continue Their Endeavor to Sell Bonds.

The stockholders of the South Kona Agricultural Company held a special meeting yesterday morning at the office of W. R. Castle. After hearing a full report on the negotiations which have been carried on in San Francisco to float a bond issue of \$800,000, the stockholders directed the officers to continue these negotiations.

The report on the progress of the work of the plantation was very satisfactory. At present 300 acres of cane are ready for cutting, but as the machinery for harvesting is not ready the cane will have to be cut back. The report also showed the development and the natural facilities of the plantation to be excellent and it is believed that if the sale of the bonds be successful the chances for a 15,000-ton plantation will be very great indeed.

THE TIGER GOES TO ITS JUNGLE.

